

*Information***Community
Relations
at Rocky Flats**

Over the last decade public concerns about environmental conditions and health and safety issues at Rocky Flats have steadily increased. Secretary James Watkins promised a new era of openness at the U.S. Department of Energy. When EG&G took over the contract for the operation and management of Rocky Flats in January 1990, they made a commitment to Secretary Watkins and the public to improve communications and the relationship between Rocky Flats and its neighbors.

Some of the primary objectives of our Community Relations Program are to

- Inform the public, local governments and special interest groups about Rocky Flats,
- Improve credibility through increased communications with the community,
- Establish improved cooperation and working relationships with local government, business and community groups,
- Identify and establish communications with previously neglected audiences,
- Provide a forum to resolve issues related to Rocky Flats operations,
- Comply with the legal requirements for community relations under federal law.

Good community relations are based on establishing a credible, working relationship with local governments, nearby residents, businesses and local environmental and activist groups. This relationship is based on public participation in the decision-making process for environmental restoration, health and safety issues, the resumption of plutonium operations or other matters of concern.

Some community relations activities are prescribed by law. For example, the Comprehensive

Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) have specific requirements for public information and involvement. An Interagency Agreement signed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, The U.S. Department of Energy and the Colorado Department of Health provides the framework to integrate and supplement these requirements. The Rocky Flats Community Relations Plan for Environmental Restoration is designed to meet these requirements and to enhance public knowledge of our environmental cleanup efforts. The plan was developed after extensive interviews with area residents, officials, business people and community groups. The plan lists many community relations activities and programs that help us achieve those objectives, including

- Quarterly public information meetings are hosted jointly with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Colorado Department of Health. These meetings are held to review the status of cleanup activities performed under CERCLA and RCRA. These meetings also provide opportunities for citizens to ask questions and offer comments and suggestions of their own.
- A network of five public information centers around the Denver Metropolitan area that contain historical and current documents about Rocky Flats.
- An Environmental Restoration Update which is published regularly and mailed to over 1800 individuals and organizations on our mailing list.
- Advance notices of all public meetings and comment periods are published in the Denver Post, the Rocky Mountain News and the Boulder Daily Camera. Notices are also sent to everyone on the mailing list.
- A Technical Review Group made up of

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representatives from local governments and environmental groups has been established to assist Rocky Flats in developing and reviewing work plans for environmental cleanup

In addition to those Community Relations Plan activities, we provide general public information support for Rocky Flats. For example, we answer telephone and mail requests about Rocky Flats operations and environmental activities

As part of our outreach program, the public, schools and local community businesses and civic groups are invited to visit the Rocky Flats Plant. Visitors are escorted onto plantsite and are presented with information tailored to their specific interests (usually regarding plant missions, issues, and challenges). Despite a long suspension for security purposes during the Persian Gulf war, our Tour Program has conducted more than 60 tours in the first half of 1991.

Our Speakers Bureau arranges speaking engagements for employees who volunteer their time to respond to requests from the public. As experts in their fields, speakers make presentations on environmental and waste management, health and safety, Rocky Flats mission and many other subjects. Speakers have reached some 3,000 people in the first half of 1991 at more than 90 engagements. In addition to scheduling these presentations, we provide backup materials and provide training for the speakers.

Community Relations also provides logistical and information support for the many public meetings and hearings that are held concerning activities at Rocky Flats. Since January 1990

Rocky Flats employees have participated in more than 50 public forums in the metro area.

Community Relations also serves as liaison to local governments by planning and participating in frequent meetings with local government officials. These meetings include discussions on environmental restoration, water management and air monitoring.

A school liaison program has improved interactions with local primary and secondary schools by providing speakers, tours and assisting students with special projects. This program complements other educational outreach activities at Rocky Flats which provide scholarships and fellowships.

Community Relations is always seeking new avenues to strengthen our relationships with the public. We are constantly striving to solve problems and serve the local communities' needs. Community Relations at Rocky Flats is dynamic and proactive. We welcome your support and participation. For more information or to be placed on our mailing list, please contact

Beth Brainard, Public Affairs Officer
U S Department of Energy,
Rocky Flats Office
P O Box 928
Golden, CO 80402-0928
303-966-5993
or

Community Relations
EG&G Rocky Flats, Inc
P O Box 464 (T-130F)
Golden, CO 80402-0464
(303) 966-5754

To review information about Rocky Flats, please visit any information center:

U S Department of Energy Rocky Flats Public Reading Room
Front Range Community College Library
3645 West 112th Avenue
Westminster, Colorado 80030
(303) 469-4435
Hours 12 00 P M - 8 00 P M Monday and Tuesday
10 00 A M - 4 00 P M Wednesday
9 00 A M - 4 00 P M Thursday and Friday

Boulder Public Library
1000 Canyon Boulevard
Boulder, Colorado 80302
(303) 441-3100
Hours 9 00 A M - 9 00 P M Monday - Thursday
9 00 A M - 6 00 P M Friday and Saturday
12 00 P M - 6 00 P M Sunday

U S Environmental Protection Agency Region VIII
Superfund Records Center
999 18th Street, Suite 500
Denver, Colorado 80202-2405
(303) 293-1807
Hours 7 30 A M - 4 30 P M Monday - Friday

Colorado Department of Health
4210 East 11th Avenue, Room 351
Denver, Colorado 80220
(303) 331-4830
Hours 8 00 A M - 5 00 P M Monday - Friday

Rocky Flats Environmental Monitoring Council
Building 4, Denver West Office Park
1536 Cole Boulevard, Suite 325
Golden, Colorado 80401
(303) 232-1966
Hours By Appointment